

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

On the Generic Position of *Asilus cacopilogus* Hine (*Asilidae*)¹: During the study of the *Asilinae* in the Canadian National Collection it seemed desirable that some character other than wing venation be found in order that at least one or more genera might be more readily separated from the remainder. With this object in view a careful examination of the thoracic sclerites was made and I was able to segregate all species of *Asilus* at once by an examination of the metanotum. This sclerite exhibits rather marked diversity in length and shape in several groups. In all the genera of *Asilinae* which resemble *Asilus* in shape the metanotum is entirely bare or with only very short pubescence, but in *Asilus* it is hairy posteriorly except in the middle. The amount of hair varies somewhat but it is always quite conspicuous and readily seen from the side, where it is usually most abundant.

When I first made use of the character I must not have examined *Asilus cacopilogus* Hine, as I did not find an exception to the rule until making some determinations recently. This species is certainly not an *Asilus*, but must be placed in the genus *Erax*. It comes into the group *E. æstuans* L. This disposition is a quite natural one from the point of wing venation as the posterior branch of the third vein, which is curved backwards at its apex, would run into the tip of the wing but for the curve. There is also, in many specimens, an indication of a stump of vein or evident angulation at the bend in the anterior branch of the third vein.

I have not seen typical specimens of *Asilus leucopogon* Williston, so am unable to pronounce upon the generic position of that species.—C. HOWARD CURRAN.

Parasitic Hymenoptera from New Jersey: Three of the following species do not appear to be listed in Smith's "Insects of New Jersey", and for this reason it was thought desirable to place them on record. The first three species were identified by Mr. A. B. Gahan.

¹ Contribution from the Division of Systematic Entomology, Entomological Branch, Dept of Agric., Ottawa.

Apanteles pyraustæ Vier. Bred from the larvæ of *Pyrausta futilalis* on dogbane, New Brunswick, N. J., August 10.

Sympiesis pennsylvanicus Gir. Bred from the larvæ of *Cop-
todisca kalmiella* Dietz, Browns Mills, N. J., June 22.

Meteorus indigator Riley. Bred from the larvæ of *Pyrausta futilalis* on dogbane, New Brunswick, N. J., August 10.

In a letter dated April 15, 1918, Dr. E. P. Felt informed me that he had reared a specimen of *Metopius pollinctorius* Say from a luna moth cocoon found on nursery stock which had been shipped to Rochester, N. Y., from Elizabeth, N. J.—HARRY B. WEISS.